(*e*) No.
(*f*) K. Porinchu Rs. 870.
(*g*) There was a tender from Mr. K. A. Abbu offering Rs. 920 but he failed to remit the necessary earnest money. So no re-auction was held.

NAVY VESSELS—PURCHASE OF

389. **Mr. Parambi Lonappen** *(Irinjalakkuda):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) (1) if they have acquired any Navy vessels from the Disposal Branch of the Roya Indian Navy;

(2) if so, will they please give.—

(*a*) a brief description, capacity, etc., of the different types of vessels purchased;
(*b*) how many of each description;
(*c*) the price paid for each type;

(*b*) (1) the purpose for which these vessels were obtained;

(2) what action they have taken to implement the purpose for which they were purchased at such a big outlay;

(*c*) (1) who was the Government Officer who inspected them and found them suitable for the purpose referred to above;

(2) whether all the vessels were seaworthy;

(3) who was the Officer who took charge of them from the Navy Disposal Branch;

(4) whether there were any spare parts or other accessories in each of them;

(5) whether any Register has been maintained for all the spare parts and accessories;

(*d*) whether in view of the fact that these are Navy vessels requiring expert supervision and maintenance, they have placed the vessels in charge of an experienced Navy man or any other holding a board of Trade certificate or at least a sea going competency certificate;

(*e*) do the Government know that the Travancore Government have also acquired several similar vessels from the Navy Disposal Branch and that they have placed them under the supervision and responsibility of an experienced Retired Navy Officer;

(*f*) if they have any intention of utilising these vessels to run their own backwater ferry services;

(*g*) (1) if all these vessels are in working condition and their power plants in perfect order or whether they require repairs or overhauling and whether their present officers are competent to attend to them;

(2) whether any or all these crafts have been made use of for any purpose since they were acquired and if so for what use they were put to?

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Minister for Public Works):*

(*a*) (1) Yes.

L. C. T. Mark V

2. (*a*) Each vessel is equipped with (1) 3 Nos. 225 H.P. Grey marine engines and propellers.

(2) 1 No. 20 KW Hill Engine Generator, and No. 2 KW generator.
(3) Several small engines and motors.
(4) The vessel has a capacity of 180 tons.
(5) It has a water storage capacity of 40,000 gls.
(6) The weight of steel plates in each vessel is 130 tons.
(7) The draft of the vessel is 6½ ft. and speed 7 knots.

L. C. M. Mark I

(*b*) Built of steel, length 45 ft. Beam 14 ft. loading capacity 16 tons, passenger capacity 100, fitted with 2 chrysler marine engines.

Motor fishing vessel

(*c*) Length 45 ft. Hull of wood and copper sheeted fitted with one chrysler marine engine

L. C. T. Mark V. 9 Nos. at Rs. 17,000 each.
L. C. M. Mark I—4 Nos. at Rs 4,000 each.
Fishing motor vessel 2 Nos. at Rs. 20,000 each.

(*b*) (1) The landing crafts were purchased for the purpose of utilizing them primarily for passenger service in the backwaters.

(2) The vessels are being overhauled and attended to for being put into operation.

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(c) The vessels were inspected by the Chief Engineer, Special Assistant Engineer, Water Works, and the Mechanical Superintendent. Advice was also taken from the Naval Officers who were then present at the Willingdon Island.

(2) All the vessels are generally in good condition.

(3) Mechanical Superintendent.

(4) There were several accessories and some spare parts in each.

(5) Yes.

(d) Government have appointed a Mechanical Superintendent and a Foreman to be in exclusive charge of the landing crafts. They are qualified hands experienced in the operation of diesel engines. These crafts are not at present meant to be used as sea-going crafts.

(e) Government have no information.

(f) The question is under consideration of Government.

(g) (1) The vessels are in good order generally. They will require cleaning, painting and other routine repairs before they can be put into service. A fully qualified staff has not been appointed for the purpose.

(2) 4 of the L. C. Ts. have been put into working order and they have been used for carrying of rice bags for the Food Department, pipes for construction works at Chowwara and oil for Trichur during the Railway strike. The L.C.Ms. have been utilised for ferry service during the monsoon season at Chowwara. The fishing crafts have not yet been put into service.

POLICE CONSTABLES—RECRUITMENT OF

390. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കെ. കണ്ണൻ; താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമൊ.—

(എ) ഫ്രഞ്ച ചിങ്ങം ഫാംങ- മുതൽ ധനുമാസം അവസാനംവരെ എത്രപേരെ പൊല്ലിസ് കാൺസ്റ്റബിൾമാരായി റിക്രൂട്ട് ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്;

(ബി) ഈ നിയമനങ്ങൾക്ക അധികൃതരിൽനിന്ന് എത്ര അപേക്ഷകന്മാരുണ്ടായിരുന്നു;

(സി) അവരിൽ എത്രപേരെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. രാഘവൻ:

(എ, ഒമ്പത.

(ബി) തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിന്ന ഹാജരായവരുടെ എണ്ണം ജാതിപ്രകാരം കണക്ക വെക്കാറില്ല.

(സി) ഏഴ പേരെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു.

COCOANUT OIL—SELLING PRICE OF

391. **Mr. M. O. Thomakutty** *(Commerce and Industry):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) is it not stated in the Government Press note that the selling price of cocoanut oil has been fixed @ Rs. 1—8—0 per edangazhi;

(b) what is the present price;

(c) what is the reason for the deviation, if any;

(d) were any of the merchants consulted before the price was fixed;

(e) if so, who are the merchants?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):*

(a) Yes, in Press Note, dated 5th Dhanu 1122.

(b) Rs. 1—10—8 per Standard Edangazhi.

(c) The volume contents of Edangazhi vary from place to place, and hence it was found necessary to fix the price in terms of Standard Edangazhi of 44 fluid ozs.

(d) Yes.

(e) A list of merchants is given in the appendix. *(Appendix V).*

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